

Friendly Visiting among the Poor; A Handbook for Charity Workers. By MARY E. RICHMOND, General Secretary of the Charity Organization Society of Baltimore. The Macmillan Co., 1899. Pp. 225. \$1.

SINCE the beginning of the charity-organization movement a great variety of experiments have furnished fairly reliable rules for the friendly visitor. A small book, full of inspiration, yet intensely practical, was needed for the growing company of workers who mediate between dependent families and the comfortable public. Miss Richmond has brought together, from careful reading and successful personal experience, a body of instruction of the highest value. She tells the visitor how to become acquainted with the poor, how to help make the best of a sorry situation, how to spend and save, how to preserve health. The needed directions are clearly stated, and the spirit of the book tends to earnest and effective action.

C. R. H

A Handbook of Labor Literature. Being a Classified and Annotated List of the More Important Books and Pamphlets in the English Language. Compiled by HELEN MAROT. Philadelphia: Free Library of Economics and Political Science, 1899. Pp. 7+96, 12mo. \$1.

CONTENTS: Introduction; works of reference; industrial history; monopolies; land question (and single tax); anarchism (and communistic anarchy); individualism and adverse criticism of socialism; socialism; utopias; communistic societies; "how the other half lives," including the sweating system and hygiene of occupation; wages; coöperation and profit-sharing; trade unions; strikes; arbitration and conciliation; hours of labor; unemployed; women wage-earners and child labor; industrial insurance and old-age pensions; labor laws and factory acts; Christianity and the labor question; labor songs; general and collective treatises; labor periodicals; sociological journals; economic monographs; bureaus of labor; bibliographies consulted; addresses of publishers; index to authors.

As will be seen from the above contents, the compiler of this bibliography has given the term "labor" a generous scope in selecting her material for a handbook of labor literature. On first inspection some

will be inclined to wonder, and perhaps find fault, that such topics as "monopolies" and "utopias" should be included; but when the book has been examined more carefully, and the good judgment shown in the selection of titles and the first-class workmanship displayed throughout is appreciated, everyone, I am sure, will wish that the compiler had included in her book the whole field of the social sciences. I fail to see how the book could be substantially improved, except by enlargement.

Miss Marot has made a move in the right direction in paying special attention to government documents on the ground that "the public is, in ordinary cases, reminded of the existence of a book through its publishers and booksellers, while government publications, pamphlets, and reports are lost sight of."

In selecting the "more important books" the compiler confesses that she has met with difficulties. All who have tried it will agree with her that it is a difficult matter to make such a selection; few will agree that her results have been "only partly satisfactory," or anything short of very satisfactory. Of course, it is always easy to find fault with a select bibliography, because no two people "select" from the same point of view. From my point of view the topic "how the other half lives, including the sweating system and hygiene of occupation," is handled the least satisfactorily. It seems to me that it would have been better to divide into two topics, one relating to hygiene of occupation, the other to housing. I think also that the topic or topics relating to housing and conditions of occupation might well be more fully represented. Such works as Octavia Hill's *Homes of the London Poor*, Bowmaker's *Housing of the Working Classes*, *The Poor in Great Cities*, by Woods and others, *Report of the New York Tenement House Committee*, Report of the United States Labor Department on *Housing of the Working People*, would seem to deserve a place along with the titles which the compiler has included.

The characterizations which follow most of the titles seem to have been made with care and are likely to prove very helpful to users of the book.

On the whole, the work is admirable, and it is much to be hoped that the compiler will cover other portions of the field of the social sciences in the same thorough way.

C. H. HASTINGS.